

Amendments to the Specification:

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 12, line 25, as with the following amended paragraph:

-- Referring to FIG. 3, a format of a data transmission frame 80 to be transmitted over the transmission medium 14 by the transmitting network station 12a is shown. The data transmission frame 80 includes a payload 82, which carries the data received from the MAC unit 18. This data includes a header 84, body 86 and frame check sequence (FCS) 88. Preferably, the payload 82 is transmitted and received by the functional units illustrated in FIG. 2 in accordance with techniques described in U.S. Patent Nos. 6,397,369; 6,442,129; and 6,278,685 ~~co-pending U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 09/455,186, entitled "Forward Error Correction With Channel Estimation," in the name of Lawrence W. Yonge III et al., co-pending U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 09/455,110, entitled "Enhanced Channel Estimation," in the name of Lawrence W. Yonge III et al., co-pending U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 09/377,131, entitled "Robust Transmission Mode", in the name of Lawrence W. Yonge III et al.,~~ all of which are incorporated herein by reference; however, other techniques may be used. The aforementioned U.S. Patent No. 6,278,685 ~~U.S. Application Serial No. 09/377,131~~ ("Robust Transmission Mode") describes a standard mode and a reduced data rate robust mode (hereinafter, simply referred to as "ROBO mode"), the ROBO mode providing for extensive diversity (in time and frequency) and data redundancy to improve the ability of the network stations to operate under adverse conditions. --